CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (original) A rack and tray assembly for supporting foot apparel and containing debris and liquids released therefrom, said assembly comprising, in combination:

a tray having a base integrally connected to inclined sides extending upwardly therefrom, along the periphery thereof and terminating at an upper rim, said rim comprising a ledge having upper and lower exposed surfaces; and

a frame having a pair of shortened end members and a pair of side members collectively joined end to end to define an interior space for receiving therein a plurality of support members integrally connected to said side members and positioned parallel to said shortened end members, said frame having an overall geometric configuration substantially conforming to said ledge to permit said frame to rest atop said upper exposed surface, each of said support members being equally spaced apart to form a plurality of elongate openings for passage into said tray debris and liquids released from foot apparel resting atop said support members.

Claim 2 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said inclined sides extend angularly outward from said base by approximately 25° from an axis perpendicular to said base.

Claim 3 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein said rim comprises a supportive wall integrally connected thereto and extending upwardly from said upper exposed surface of said ledge to supplement rigidity of said tray and retain positioning of said frame about said tray while foot apparel is being slidably positioned about said support members.

Claim 4 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 3, wherein said supportive wall comprises a height substantially equivalent to the height of said frame to mitigate undue interference between said supportive wall and foot apparel as the foot apparel traverses said support members and onto and over said supportive wall and said frame.

Claim 5 (cancelled) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a

cabinet having left and right sidewalls and top and bottom sides collectively connected together to form a box-like structure defining an interior compartment for housing therein at least one tray adaptably fitted with said frame having said support member, said left and right sidewalls each having an inner planer surface for mounting thereon left and right guide rails, respectively, each extending outwardly therefrom to engage said lower exposed surface and support said tray.

Claim 6 (cancelled) An assembly as set forth in claim 5, wherein said cabinet is fitted with a cushioned seat mounted atop said top side and is structurally reinforced by a back panel fixedly attached along a back leading edge of the collective arrangement of said left and right sidewalls and said top and bottom sides, said cabinet further comprising a pair of rotatable lock mechanisms fastened along a front leading edge of said cabinet to retain positioning of said tray within said cabinet during movement of the foot apparel.

Claim 7 (original) A foldable rack and tray assembly for supporting foot apparel and containing debris and liquids released therefrom, said assembly comprising, in combination:

a tray having a base integrally connected to inclined sides extending upwardly therefrom, along the periphery thereof and terminating at an upper rim, said rim comprising a ledge having upper and lower exposed surfaces; and

a folding frame structure having left and right legs pivotally fastened to at least one tray support assembly situated thereinbetween, each of said legs comprising upper and lower elongate horizontal members and a pair of elongate vertical members each having ends fastened to one another to form a leg of rectangular configuration, said tray support assembly comprising left and right tray rails integrally connected thereto and hanging downwardly therefrom to engage said lower exposed surface to the extent of supporting said tray below said tray support assembly.

Claim 8 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein said tray support assembly comprises forward and aft horizontal supports each having a pair of ends affixed to said left and right legs and positioned parallel to one another, each of said ends

of said horizontal supports comprising a stem extending outwardly and perpendicular therefrom to engage and fit into an aperture extending into and through an inner face of each of said vertical members.

Claim 9 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 8, wherein said left and right tray rails each comprise a pair of L-shaped members each having vertical and horizontal elements, said vertical element having a first end integrally connected to said horizontal support and a second end integrally connected to an end of said horizontal element extending outwardly and perpendicular from said vertical element to engage said lower exposed surface of said ledge.

Claim 10 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 9, wherein said L-shaped members of each of said tray rails are integrally connected by a rod extending between free ends of said horizontal elements.

Claim 11 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 8, wherein each of said horizontal supports is locked into position about said legs by a pair of angular braces each having top and bottom ends and an offsetting intermediate member situated thereinbetween substantially serving to prevent binding of said brace with that of said inner face upon collapsing said folding frame structure, said bottom end of each brace comprising an aperture for receiving therethrough a fastener extending into and terminating within each of said horizontal supports, said top end having a hook integrally made part thereof to engage a pin extending outwardly from said inner face of said vertical member.

Claim 12 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 11, wherein said pin comprises an end cap affixed thereto to prevent said top end of said brace from becoming inadvertently disengaged by the occurrence of lateral movement of said tray support assembly.

Claim 13 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein said tray support assembly further comprises a plurality of support bars of elongate form situated perpendicular and connected to said horizontal supports and equally spaced apart from one another forming lengthened openings thereinbetween collectively serving to allow

simultaneous support of foot apparel and uninhibited passage of debris and liquids therethrough into said tray.

Claim 14 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein each of said legs is formed from a continuous piece of tubing and bent accordingly to define said upper and lower elongate horizontal members and said elongate vertical members.

Claim 15 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein said tray is fabricated from plastic and each of said legs is fabricated from metal suitably coated with a corrosion resisting material.

Claim 16 (original) A rack and tray assembly for supporting foot apparel and containing debris and liquids released therefrom, said assembly comprising, in combination:

a tray having a base integrally connected to inclined sides extending upwardly therefrom, along the periphery thereof and terminating at an upper rim, said rim comprising a ledge having upper and lower exposed surfaces;

a grate having a pair of shortened end members and a pair of side members collectively joined end to end to define an interior space for receiving therein a plurality of support members integrally connected to said side members and positioned parallel to said shortened end members, each of said support members being equally spaced apart to form a plurality of elongate openings for passage into said tray debris and liquids released from foot apparel resting atop said support members; and

left and right tray rails each comprising a pair of L-shaped members each having vertical and horizontal elements, said vertical element having a first end connected to a plate assembly for fastening said tray rails to and below said grate and a second end integrally connected to an end of said horizontal element extending outwardly and perpendicular from said vertical element to engage said lower exposed surface of said ledge.

Claim 17 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 16, wherein said plate assembly comprises upper and lower positioning plates each having a pair of concave runners extending parallel to one another with each of said runners being shaped to

substantially conform to the individual geometric configuration of said support members.

Claim 18 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 17, wherein said upper positioning plate is mounted to said grate with said runners facing downwardly toward said grate to engage said support members while said lower positioning plate is mounted to said grate below said upper positioning plate with said runners facing upwardly toward said grate to engage said support members, said upper and lower positioning plates being held together by a screw.

Claim 19 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 16, wherein said L-shaped members of each of said tray rails are fixedly connected by an elongate support having threaded ends each being threadably fitted into a threaded portion of a free end of said horizontal element.

Claim 20 (original) An assembly as set forth in claim 16, wherein said inclined sides extend angularly outward from said base by approximately 25° from an axis perpendicular to said base.

Claim 21 (new) An assembly as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a folding frame structure having left and right legs pivotally fastened to at least one tray support assembly situated thereinbetween, each of said legs comprising upper and lower elongate horizontal members and a pair of elongate vertical members each having ends fastened to one another to form a leg of rectangular configuration, said tray support assembly comprising forward and aft horizontal supports each having a pair of ends affixed to said left and right legs and positioned parallel to one another, each of said ends of said horizontal supports comprising a stem extending outwardly and perpendicular therefrom to engage and fit into an aperture extending into and through an inner face of each of said vertical members and left and right tray rails integrally connected to said horizontal supports and hanging downwardly therefrom to engage said lower exposed surface to the extent of supporting said tray below said tray support assembly.

Claim 22 (new) An assembly as set forth in claim 7, further comprising a frame having a pair of shortened end members and a pair of side members collectively joined end to end to define an interior space for receiving therein a plurality of support members

integrally connected to said side members and positioned parallel to said shortened end members, said frame having an overall geometric configuration substantially conforming to said ledge to permit said frame to rest atop said upper exposed surface, each of said support members being equally spaced apart to form a plurality of elongate openings for passage into said tray debris and liquids released from foot apparel resting atop said support members.